

Message Text

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SUBJ: USIRJC MANPOWER ACTIVITIES

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1. SUMMARY: AT A MEETING FEBRUARY 25 WITH MINLAB DEPUTY MINISTER NASSERI STATUS OF WARZECHA MISSION (MOBILE VOCATIONAL TRAINING CENTERS) AND FUTURE MERSON CONSULTATIVE MISSIONS ON USIRJC PROJECTS WERE DISCUSSED. NASSERI'S VIEWS ON WORK PLAN FOR WARZECHA GAVE AS MUCH EMPHASIS TO MANAGEMENT OF CENTERS AS TO PREPARATION OF RFP'S. THE MEETING WAS UNABLE TO RESOLVE QUESTION OF COMPENSATION FOR FUTURE MERSON TDY'S. END SUMMARY.

2. FEBRUARY 25 MEETING BETWEEN EMBASSY LABOR REPORTING OFFICER, MINISTRY OF LABOR UNDERSECRETARY FOR MANPOWER NASSERI, AND OTHER MINLAB PARITCIPANTS MAINLY FROM INDUSTRIAL TRAINGIN BOARD FOCUSED ON WORK SHCHEDULE FOR MOBILE VOACTIONAL TRAINING CENTER EXPERT WARZECHA AND FURUTRE TDY'S OF US-IRAN JOINT COMMISSION MANPOWER ACTIVITIES CONSULTANT MERSON. NASSERI OPENED MEETING BY READING FROM MEMO SENT TEN DAYS EARLIER TO LABOR MINISTER MOINI FROM
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PLAN AND BUDGET ORGANIZATION DIRECTOR MAJIDI TO WIT:(WITH

REFERENCE TO PREVIOUS NUMBERED NOTES) WITH REGARD TO THE THIRD SESSION OF THE MANPOWER COMMITTEE AND JOINT ACTIVITIES OF IRAN AND AMERICA, DUE TO THE HEAVY FINANCIAL BURDENS ON THE GOVERNMENT, THE NECESSARY CREDITS FOR CAPITAL INVESTMENT INVOLVED IN THESE ACTIVITIES CANNOT BE ASSURED UNTIL THE END OF THE FIFTH PLAN. IT THUS SEEMS BETTER THAT THE ARRIVAL OF THE RELEVANT EXPERTS BE HELD IN ABEYANCE UNTIL SUCH TIME AS THE INVESTMENT FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE. NASSERI CONTINUED BY SAYING THAT, NOTWITHSTANDING MAJIDI'S ADVISEMENT, THE MINISTRY OF LABOR AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS WISHED TO PROCEED WITH THE SUB-PROJECT FOR MOBILE TRAINING CENTERS, FUNDING THE EXPENSES OUT OF MONIES AVAILABLE IN THE MINISTRY'S CURRENT-YEAR BUDGET. NASSERI REPEATED HIS INVITATION TO US EXPERT WARZECHA, SUGGESTED AN ARRIVAL DATE OF APRIL 5, AND INSTRUCTED STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT FROM THE INDUSTRIAL TRAINING BOARD(ITB) TO PREPARE FOR HIS ARRIVAL. NASSERI, AFTER PLACING A NUMBER OF QUICK TELEPHONE CALLS, INFORMED THE REPORTING OFFICER THAT THE CHECK COVERING THE EXPENSES OF THE PROJECT(RIAL EQUIVALENT OF \$52,500) WAS SIGNED AND WOULD BE SENT THAT DAY VIA THE MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AND FINANCE AND THE FOREIGN MINISTRY TO THE EMBASSY. (EMBASSY COMMENT: AS OF MARCH 2, THE CHECK HAS NOT ARRIVED).

3. NASSERI STATED THAT THE MINISTRY EXPECTED TO BE ABLE TO PURCHASE, FROM ITS 1355 BUDGET(MARCH 21,1976--MARCH 20,1977) AN ADDITIONAL 10 TO 20 MOBILE TRAINING CENTERS. FOLLOWING THAT, EXTRA FUNDS WOULD BE MADE AVAILABLE IN THE SIXTH PLAN(FOLLOWING THE END OF 1356) FOR THE PURCHASE OF MANY MORE CENTERS. WARZECHA'S WORK ON THE PREPARATION OF REQUESTS FOR PROCUREMENT (RFP'S) AND HIS ADVICE ON TYPES OF EQUIPMENT BEST SUITED FOR IRAN'S FUTURE NEEDS, HE SAID, WOULD ALLOW THE MINISTRY OF LABOR TO BE READY TO MOVE FORWARD ON PURCHASE AS SOON AS ADDITIONAL FUNDS WERE ALLOCATED.

4. THE REPORTING OFFICER REMINDED DR. NASSERI THAT DOL HAD SOUGHT ASSURANCE THAT WARZECHA WOULD CONCENTRATE ON THE PREPARATION OF RFP'S, ADVISING ON MANAGEMENT AND UTILIZATION OF CENTERS IF AND AS TIME WAS AVAILABLE. TO THIS NASSERI RESPONDED THAT IN HIS THINKING, THESE ACTIVITIES WERE CLOSELY INTER-RELATED, SINCE DR. WARZECHA WOULD NEED TO STUDY THE USES TO WHICH THE CENTERS WOULD BE PUT IN DRAWING UP SPECIFICATIONS. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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HE HOPED THAT DR. WARZECHA WOULD TRAVEL TO DIFFERENT AREAS OF THE COUNTRY AND STUDY THE APPLICATION OF THE TRAINING BASE CONCEPT AND THE PECULIARITIES OF EACH GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION BEFORE ARRIVING AT SPECIFICATIONS, WHICH NASSERI SAW AS THE END PRODUCT COMING AT THE CONCLUSION OF HIS MISSION. THE REPORTING OFFICER COMMENTED THAT THE ORIGINAL WORK PLAN FOR THIS PROJECT HAD BEEN CONCEIVED IN SUCH A WAY AS TO ARRIVE AT A FINAL VERSION OF A RATING MANUAL AND RFP'S BY

THE END OF 180 DAYS AND HE WISHED TO CHECK BACK WITH DOL TO SEE IF THE ADVISORY ROLE SUGGESTED BY THE MINISTRY OF LABOR WOULD NECESSITATE CHANGES IN THE TIME FRAME. C(COMMENT: AT THIS MEETING NASSERI MADE NO MENTION OF A PREVIOUSLY-SUGGESTED THIRD FUNCTION FOR WARZECHA, I.E., HELPING THE MINISTRY DRAW UP JOB DESCRIPTIONS AND RECRUITMENT REQUIREMENTS FOR FIVE WORKING-LEVEL EXPERTS IN DIFFERENT OCCUPATIONAL FIELDS.

5. RE MERSON'S FUTURE TDY'S TO IRAN, NASSERI ADVISED THE REPORTING OFFICER THAT HE HAD BEEN TOLD BY LABOR MINISTER MIONI THAT THE MINISTRY WOULD BE UNABLE TO OBTAIN COUNCIL OF MINISTERS' APPROVAL FOR THE PAYMENT OF ANY MORE OR LESS THAN HAD BEEN REIMBURSED TO THE USG FOR MERSON'S SERVICES ON PREVIOUS TRIPS. THE REPORTING OFFICER INFORMED NASSERI THAT WE WERE EVIDENTLY AT AN IMPASSE ON THIS ISSUE. DRAWING ON REF A, EMBOFF POINTED OUT THAT TWITH SIGNATURE OF JOINT REPORT OF THIRD MANPOWER COMMITTEE MEET IN SEPTEMBER 1975, MERSON'S FUTURE ACTIVITIES HERE BECAME INTEGRAL PART OF PLAN OF OPERATIONS (ACTIVITY 15) AND THUS SUSCEPTIBLE TO SAME TERMS AND CONDITIONS APPLYING TO OTHER US EXPERT CONSULTANTS. NASSERI HAD NOTHING FURTHER TO SAY ON SUBJECT EXCEPT TO REQUEST SOME UNDERSTANDING AND, HOEPFULL, FLEXIBILITY ON OUR PART. UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES, EMBOFF DID NOT INFORM NASSERI OF PLAN TO SUBMIT ADVANCE BILLING 30 DAYS BEFORE EACH SCHEDULED MERSON TRIP. RE COMPENSATION FOR LAST MERSON VISIT(DECEMBER-JANUARY), NASSERI ASSURED REPORTING OFFICER THAT CHECK WAS BEING PROCESSED, THIS ALSO IS NOT YET IN HAND.

6. REQUEST PRIORITY DOL VIEWS ON DESIRABILITY OF WARZECH MISSION IN VIEW REDUCED GOI SPENDING PLANS FOR MIBILE CENTERS THROUGH 1355 AND IN VIEW OF ADDED TASKS NASSERI HOPES WARZECHA CAN ACCOMPLISH IN ADDITION TO WRITING OF RFP'S. ALSO REQUEST DOL RECOMMENDATIONS AS TO WHETHER OR NOT NASSERI SHOULD BE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FROMALLY NOTIFIED OF CANCELLATION OF PLANNED MERSON 1976 TDY'S.

7. EMBASSY COMMENT: USIRJC MANPOWER COLLABORATION FOR 1354-55, IN VIEW IMPASSE OVER MERSON FUNDING AND LACK OF RESPONSE TO DOL PROPOSALS NOMINATING TOWNSEND(FOR EMPLOYMENT-UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE PROJECT) AND VAN TRIES(FIXED VOCATIONAL CENTER PROJECT) RAPIDLY BIOLING DOWN TO WARZECH PROJECT ALONES. AS STATED REF F, EMBASSY FAVORS KEEPING DOOR OPEN FOR FUTURE EXPANDED COOPERATION AS LONG AS GOI AGREES PAY FULL COSTS FOR EXPERTS.
MIKLOS

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